

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/525,609

Examiner

Benny Q. Tieu

Applicant(s)

LEE ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to patent application filed Feb. 25, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-13.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 2/25/05
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Liao (CN 1156301) teach a method for spreading the advertisement information by telephone. The implementing way is that in the switchboard a carrier recorded the advertisement information is added to replace the ring back tone. When the caller has dialed the telephone number, he (she) heard first several advertisement information until the called subscriber hooks off the telephone (Abstract). Liao fails to teach the communication between HLR, MSC and Intelligent peripheral (IP). Chavez, Jr. et al. teach an advertised ring back in a telecommunication switching system including transmitting by a public service provider an audio message to the calling party instead normal ring back tones when a call is placed by a calling party to a called party (Abstract). The same as Liao, Chavez, Jr. et al. fail to teach the communication between HLR, MSC and Intelligent peripheral (IP).

Regarding claim 1, prior art of record fails to teach, or renders obvious, alone or in combination, a method of managing a trunk to provide a ring-back sound in a subscriber-based ring-back sound service, the ring-back sound service method including the communication between HLR, MSC and Intelligent peripheral (IP) as directly claimed in claim 1. The trunk management method comprises the steps of the terminating MSC requesting a release of the connected trunk call from the IP means when an answer of the terminating subscriber is recognized or when a first predetermined period of time has elapsed from a time when it is recognized that the searched ring-back sound is provided to the originator; and the IP means requesting a release of the connected trunk call form the terminating MSC when a second

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predetermined period of time has elapsed from a time when the ring-back sound begins to be provided.

Regarding claim 5, prior art of record fails to teach, or renders obvious, alone or in combination, a method of querying a ring-back sound in a subscriber-based ring-back sound service, in which communication between IP and MSC as directly claimed in claim 5. The method comprising the steps of a) when a request for a trunk call connection that allows a ring-back sound preset and registered with respect to a terminating terminal to be transmitted to an originating terminal instead of a typical ring-back tone according to routing information to a corresponding IP provided from the HLR, is received from a corresponding MSC, the corresponding IP searching for routing information to one among the plurality of IP servers depending on information of the terminating subscriber provided from the trunk-connected corresponding MSC; and b) the corresponding IP performing routing to the corresponding IP server depending on the searched routing information and querying and obtaining a code of a corresponding ring-back sound depending on the information of the terminating subscriber.

Regarding claim 9, prior art of record fails to teach, or renders obvious, alone or in combination, a method of ascertaining a ring-back sound in a subscriber-based ring-back sound service, which allows a subscriber to ascertain his or her own ring-back sound or another subscriber's ring-back sound substituting for a typical ring-back tone using an automatic response service unit having a variety of ring-back sounds as specific sounds to correspond to code information when the subscriber-based ring-back sound service for providing a terminating subscriber's desired specific sound instead of the ring back tone is implemented, the automatic response service unit performing the steps of a) obtaining information of an arbitrary second

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subscriber using a ring-back sound to be ascertained while communicating with a mobile terminal of a first subscriber connected to the automatic response service unit through a mobile communication network depending on a preset scenario; b) requesting and obtaining code information corresponding to the second subscriber information from an IP server while communicating with the IP server having the code information to correspond to the subscriber information; and c) transmitting a ring-back sound provided to correspond to the obtained code information to the mobile terminal of the first subscriber.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Benny Q. Tieu whose telephone number is 571-272-7490. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday: 6:30AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar can be reached on 571-272-7488. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Benny Q. Tieu". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped "B" and a distinct "Tieu".

Benny Q. Tieu
Primary Examiner
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September 3, 2005